Message Text

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11

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 AID-05 EB-07 INT-05 $/063~\mathrm{W}$

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R 021530Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1102

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS NIAMEY 2588

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, ENRG, FR, NG

SUBJ: VISIT OF PRESIDENT KOUNTCHE TO FRANCE

1. ON ARRIVAL NIAMEY JULY 1 AFTER 5-DAY VISIT TO FRANCE, PRESIDENT KOUNTCHE CHARACTERIZED TRIP AS SUCCESSFUL AND DISCUSSIONS WITH FRENCH LEADERS AS FRANK AND CANDID.

2. IN AIRPORT INTERVIEW KOUNTCHE SAID:

A) HE HAD TAKEN OPPORTUNITY DURING VISIT TO FRANCE TO OUTLINE NIGER'S DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY. IN SHORT TERM THIS INVOLVED INSURING RECOVERY FROM DROUGHT. IN THIS CONTEXT HE WAS GRATEFUL FOR EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE CONTRIBUTED BY FRANCE AND INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY. IN MEDIUM AND LONG TERM NIGER'S GOALS ARE: (1) KANDADJI DAM; (2) DEVELOPMENT OF MINERAL RESOURCES: URANIUM, PHOSPHATE AND OIL; (3) IRRIGATION WORKS; (4) NAVIGATION D NIGER RIVER UNCLASSIFIED

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(5) TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE INCLUDING ROADS AND

TRAINS.

B) HE DISCUSSED THESE PROJECTS AND NEEDS FULLY WITH FRENCH LEADERS WHO RESPONDED POSITIVELY.

C) HE RAISED WITH SOMAIR PARTNERS QUESTION OF BUILDING ROAD FROM TAHOUA TO ARLIT TO FACILITATE TRANSPORT OF SUPPLIES AND EXPORT OF URANIUM.

D) HE NOTED WITH SOME SURPRISE THAT NIGER,
GABON AND ARGENTINA HAD NOT BEEN INVITED TO
PARTICIPATE IN DELIBERATIONS OF "INSTITUTE OF URANIUM"
RECENTLY ESTABLISHED IN LONDON AND COMPRISING URANIUM
PRODUCING COUNTRIES. HE SAID NIGER WAS READY TO
PARTICIPATE IN CONSORTIUM OF SUCH COUNTRIES TO
DEVISE STRATEGY TO DEAL WITH CONSUMING COUNTRIES.HECK

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JÚL 2006

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Subject: VISIT OF PRESIDENT KOUNTCHE TO FRANCE TAGS: PFOR, ENRG, FR, NG, (KOUNTCHE, SEYNI)
To: STATE

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